

## Message Text

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21

ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 /041 W

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R 110858Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0532

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, RP, XB, ILO

SUBJECT: FIRST ASIAN REGIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH CONFERENCE,  
MANILA, FEBRUARY 3-7, 1975

REF: A. STATE 014437 (NOTAL)

B. MANILA 11502

1. PROGRAM COORDINATOR BEN SHARMAN (IAM INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE) DEPARTED FEBRUARY 11, WELL-SATISFIED WITH CONFERENCE WHICH GROUPED 24 DELEGATES REPRESENTING 18 TRADE UNIONS FROM AUSTRALIA, JAPAN, MALAYSIA, PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE, SOUTH KOREA AND U.S. UNFORTUNATELY, VISA PROBLEMS APPARENTLY PREVENTED 3-MAN TAIWAN DELEGATION FROM ATTENDING (TAIPEI 0380 NOTAL). ASIDE FROM SHARMAN, OTHER U.S. PARTICIPANTS WERE CO-PROGRAM COORDINATOR GEORGE COLLINS (IUE WASHINGTON OFFICE), JACK R. SUAREZ (IUE LATHAM, N.Y.), CHARLES H. TUPPER (IBEW WASHINGTON), AND ADOLPH SCHWARTZ (UNITED STEEL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WORKERS, PITTSBURGH). CONFERENCE WAS JOINTLY SPONSORED

BY U.S. UNIONS IDENTIFIED ABOVE (MEMBERS IMF) UNDER SUB-  
CONTRACT WITH AAFLI.

2. LABOR SECRETARY BLAS OPLE AS OPENING SPEAKER STRESSED  
NEED ASIAN NATIONS GIVE BETTER PROTECTION TO THEIR MOST  
VALUABLE ASSET: HUMAN RESOURCES. CONFERENCE WAS HARD-  
WORKING AND CAME UP WITH CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
PAPER (AIR POUCHED SEPARATELY) WHICH DELEGATES WILL SEEK  
IMPLEMENT IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES. AMONG OTHER  
THINGS, CONFERENCE URGED BOTH IMF AND ILO PLAY GREATER  
ROLE IN DEALING WITH SAFETY AND HEALTH PROBLEMS WHICH  
IN DEVELOPING NATIONS TENDED BE IGNORED IN DRIVE FOR  
ECONOMIC PROGRESS. CHARACTERIZING CONFERENCE AS OF  
"EXTREME BENEFIT", DELEGATES EXPRESSED GRATITUDE TO 4  
U.S. UNIONS FOR THEIR JOINT EFFORTS, ALSO LAUDING AAFLI.

3. COMMENT: SHARMAN TO BE CONGRATULATED FOR EXCELLENT  
COORDINATING AND PLANNING JOB. ASIAN DELEGATES, INCLUDING  
REPRESENTATIVES 4 FILIPINO UNIONS, VISIBLY IMPRESSED  
BY FIRSTHAND PARTICIPATION SUCH PRESTIGIOUS AND POWERFUL  
UNIONS AS IAM, IUE, IBEW AND STEELWORKERS. EXPERIENCE  
ALSO VALUABLE FOR AMERICANS. FOR MOST OF OUR TRADE  
UNIONISTS WITH OBVIOUS EXCEPTION SHARMAN, THIS WAS FIRST  
EXPOSURE TO FOREIGN LABOR SCENE AND THEY WELCOMED OPPOR-  
TUNITY. SCHWARTZ, WHO HAD INITIALLY BEEN LUKEWARM ABOUT  
WHOLE IDEA, LEFT FOR HOME A NEAR-CONVERTED INTERNATIONALIST\*  
AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE (DAVE MCLEISH, SECRETARY OF ELECTRI-  
CAL TRADES UNION) TOLD U.S. DELEGATES PRIVATELY HE PLANS  
PUSH IDEA OF PERIODIC CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN ELECTRICAL/  
ELECTRONIC/METALWORKING UNIONS OF AUSTRALIA, CANADA, NEW  
ZEALAND AND U.S.

4. POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF CONFERENCE WITH REGARD IMF  
DESERVE MENTION. ACCORDING SHARMAN, IMF IN RECENT YEARS  
HAS OBJECTED TO ANY SEMINAR OR CONFERENCE INVOLVING "OUT-  
SIDE ORGANIZATION" (ESPECIALLY U.S. ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS  
AAFLI, AIFLD, OR AALC). IMF REGIONALIZATION MOVES (E.G.  
EUROPEAN, SCANDINAVIAN, AND LATIN AMERICAN GROUPINGS) HAVE  
FURTHER SERVED TO ISOLATE AMERICAN IMF MEMBERS FROM THEIR  
FORIEGN COLLEAGUES. IMF WAS UNHAPPY ABOUT THIS CON-  
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ERENCE AND REPORTEDLY ATTEMPTED DISSUADE MALAYSIA, FOR ONE,  
FROM ATTENDING. FACT THAT ASIAN TRADE UNIONS DISREGARDED  
IMF GROUND RULES IN FAVOR MEETING WITH THEIR AMERICAN BRO-  
THERS BOUND TO RANKLE IN CERTAIN IMF QUARTERS. IN MEAN-  
TIME, SHARMAN HOPES U.S.-ASIAN UNION-TO-UNION CONTACTS  
INITIATED THIS CONFERENCE WILL THRIVE.  
SULLIVAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 FEB 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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